

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-09 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

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MBFR-03 SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-02 NSC-10 SS-14 ACDA-19

OIC-04 CU-04 EB-11 STR-08 SCI-06 OMB-01 RSR-01 /172 W
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R 020745 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5879

INFO ALL CSCE CAPITALS 174

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 HELSINKI 850

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD

SUBJECT: CSCE: WORKING GROUP DISCUSSION ON ECONOMIC
COOPERATION

1. SUMMARY. AT MEETING OF WORKING GROUP MARCH 30, SOVIET REP EXHIBITED INCREASING IMPATIENCE WITH PACE OF DRAFTING ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION MANDATE AND PROPOSED THAT GROUP TAKE UP INTRODUCTION AND SECTIONS ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT SIMULTANEOUSLY. ON FORMER SOVIETS STATED THEY FOUND REVISED BELGIAN TEXT CONSTRUCTIVE EFFORT AT COMPROMISE BUT REAFFIRMED THEIR OPPOSITION TO OMISSION IN TEXT OF REFERENCES TO " PRINCIPLES" AND " PROGRAM" FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND TO INCLUSION OF ORIGINAL BELGIAN MANDATE LANGUAGE ON " RECIPROCITY AND MUTUAL ADVANTAGE." PROPOSAL BY SOCIALIST COUNTRIES TO BRACKET DISPUTED LANGUAGE MET WITH OPPOSITION EC ALLIES WHO, AS RESULT OF EARLIER CAUCUS, HAD AGREED NOT TO ACCEPT BRACKETING AS METHOD OF WORK ON BASKET II AND TO URGE, INSTEAD, FURTHER SEARCH FOR AGREED FORMULATIONS. PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF TABLED MANDATES FOR SUB-COMMITTEES ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT
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REVEALED WIDE AREA OF AGREEMENT AND OPTIMISM THAT TEXTS WOULD NOT PROVE DIFFICULT TO RECONCILE. MAJOR PROBLEM FOR NEXT WEEK' S DISCUSSION OF MANDATE FOR TRADE SUB-COMMITTEE WILL BE EXPLICIT REFERENCE IN BULGARIAN PROPOSAL TO MFN, NON- DISCRIMINATION AND EQUALITY OF RIGHTS IN ECONOMIC RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. IN WORKING GROUP DISCUSSION ON BASKET II (ECONOMIC COOPERATION(MARCH 30, SOVIET REP (ZORIN) CONTINUED TO FORCE PACE OF DISCUSSION BY PROPOSING THAT DURING COFFEE BREAK AUTHORS OF TABLED DRAFTS ON MANDATES FOR SUB-COMMITTEES ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT MEET TO PRODUCE AGREED TEXT FOR PRESENTATION TO WORKING GROUP. IN MEANTIME, HE SAID, HE WAS PREPARED TO OFFER COMPROMISE PROPOSAL ON INTRODUCTION AND TO BEGIN DRAFTING TEXT. ZORIN RE- AFFIRMED OPPOSITION TO OMISSION IN REVISED BELGIAN TEXT ON INTRODUCTION OF REFERENCE TO " PRINCIPLES" AND " EUROPEAN PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION" AND INSISTED ON DELETION OF LANGUAGE ON " RECIPROCITY AND MUTUAL ADVANTAGE." HE PROPOSED THAT THESE CONTENTIOUS ISSUES BE BRACKETED AND SUGGESTED THAT COMPOSITE TEXT COULD BE DEVELOPED FROM SOVIET AND BELGIAN DRAFTS WITH ONLY SLIGHT MODIFICATIONS.

3. US WELCOMED SOVIET ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT BELGIAN TEXT WAS INDEED CONSTRUCTIVE EFFORT TO ENCOMPASS REQUIREMENTS OF MOST DELEGATIONS. HE QUESTIONED WHETHER SOVIET AND OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES' STRESS ON FORMULATION OF PRICIPLES AND PROGRAM FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION DID NOT EXCEED SPIRIT OF WORKING GROUP' S MANDATE WHICH, EVEN IN SOVIET TEXTS, WAS INTERPRETED AS ESSENTIALLY PRODUCING

RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENTS WHICH MIGHT GUIDE THEIR MUTUAL RELATIONS OR BE UTILIZED IN BILATERAL OR MULTI-LATERAL ACCORDS. US ALSO DISPUTED SOVIET CONTENTION MADE EARLIER IN DEBATE THAT CONCEPT OF RECIPROCITY AND MUTUAL ADVANTAGE IS " WESTERN" PRINCIPLE AND THAT ITS INCLUSION IN TEXT SHOULD BE EQUATED TO AND COMPENSATED FOR BY REFERENCE TO MFN AND NON- DISCRIMINATION. US SUMMED UP BY URGING COLLEAGUES TO DEVISE ALTERNATIVE FORMULATIONS WHICH WOULD MEET DESIDERATA OF MOST DELS AND, AT SAME TIME, OFFER OPPORTUNITY AT CSCE TO DISCUSS
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ANY MATTER OF SUBSTANCE WHICH STATES DEEMED RELEVANT.

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3. NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM AND FRANCE INTERVENED IN SUPPORT OF BELGIAN TEXT AND LATTER, WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO EUROPEAN PROGRAM, NOTED THAT ALL ELEMENTS OF SUCH A PROGRAM ALREADY CONTAINED IN BELGIAN MANDATE AND THAT, IN ANY CASE, EXACT FORMULATION IN THIS REGARD WAS BEST LEFT FOR MINISTERIAL DECISION. ON QUESTION OF USE OF BRACKETS, ALL EC ALLIES WHO SPOKE OPPOSED THEIR USE AS ONLY POSTPONING BUT NOT SOLVING PROBLEMS WHILE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES AND MOST NEUTRALS SUPPORTED THEM AS INEVITABLE AND NECESSARY DEVICE TO SPEED DRAFTING PROCESS.

4. IN FINAL INTERVENTION ON THIS SUBJECT, ZORIN THANKED US AND FRANCE FOR THEIR SPECIFIC COMMENTS ON INTRODUCTION AND OFFERED TO SEEK ALTERNATIVE FORMULATIONS FOR DISPUTED LANGUAGE BUT WITHOUT MUCH OPTIMISM THAT HE WOULD SUCCEED. HE REITERATED NEED FOR BRACKETS CONTENDING THAT FAILURE TO EMPLOY THEM IN FEW INSTANCES WHERE NECESSARY MIGHT JEOPARDIZE POINTS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO CERTAIN COUNTRIES AND THEIR ACCEPTANCE OF ENTIRE TEXT.

5. ON OTHER ISSUES UNDER DISCUSSION I. E. SCIENCE

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AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT, FRG, SUPPORTED BY OTHER EC ALLIES, REFUSED TO ACCEPT SOVIET SUGGESTION FOR COFFEE BREAK DRAFTING SESSION AND PROPOSED THAT TEXTS, WHICH WERE VERY SIMILAR IN SUBSTANCE, BE RECONCILED IN WORKING GROUP. ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY HE SAID THAT CZECH PROPOSAL WAS GOOD BASIS FOR DISCUSSION AND MAJOR ALTERATION REQUIRED WAS ADDITION OF REFERENCE TO ELIMINATION OF OBSTACLES IN THIS AREA. CZECH REP FOUND FRG SUGGESTION ACCEPTABLE. WITH RESPECT TO THE ENVIRONMENT, FRG, SUPPORTED BY BELGIUM, DECLARED THAT GDR PROPOSAL THIS AREA WAS ALSO GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE IF TEXT COULD BE REVISED TO INCLUDE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO WORK OF ECE, IF REFERENCES TO " IN EUROPE" WERE DELETED AND IF GDR REP COULD EXPLAIN WHAT WAS MEANT BY REFERENCE TO " MORE RATIONAL USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES." GDR REP WAS NOT PREPARED TO COMMENT ON FRG AND BELGIAN COMMENTS.

6. IN FINAL SOVIET INTERVENTION ON THIS SUBJECT, ZORIN CHARACTERIZED AS " DANGEROUS" THE EXPRESSED RELUCTANCE SOME DELEGATIONS TO SIT DOWN AT TABLE WITH OTHERS AND BEGIN WORKING ON TEXTS " WITH PENCIL IN HAND" (AN OBVIOUS REFERENCE TO FRG). HE PROPOSED THAT NEXT MEETING WORKING GROUP DEVOTE FIRST PART ITS SESSION TO DISCUSSION OF INTRODUCTION AND LATTER HALF TO CONSOLIDATION OF TEXTS ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

7. ON RELATED ISSUES, YUGOSLAVIA, SPAIN AND MALTA URGED SPECIFIC MENTION OF MED AND LESS DEVELOPED REGIONS IN EUROPE IN INTRODUCTION' S REFERENCE TO INTERESTS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND ROMANIA TABLED NEW TEXT IN THIS REGARD. SPAIN NOTED ITS CONTINUING INTEREST IN LATER DISCUSSION OF TOURISM AND PROBLEMS OF MIGRATORY LABOR.

8. COMMENT: MAJOR ISSUE WHICH UNDERLAY WORKING GROUP DISCUSSION WAS LARGELY PROCEDURAL ONE. EC NINE CAUCAS HAD AGREED TO DEFER SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION INTRODUCTION AND TO BEGIN WITH SUBJECTS ON WHICH WIDE AREA OF CONSENSUS ALREADY EXISTED, I. E. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT. THEY ALSO AGREED, THAT IF SOVIETS SHOULD PUSH DISCUSSION OF INTRODUCTION, NOT TO ACCEPT USE OF BRACKETS ON CONTENTIOUS ISSUES BUT TO EXTEND DEBATE

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IN SEARCH FOR COMMONLY AGREED ALTERNATIVE FORMULATIONS.
AT NATO CAUCUS, US ARGUED THAT TO BEGIN DISCUSSION ON
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, THE ENVIRONMENT, MIGRATORY
LABOR, TOURISM ETC. WOULD MEAN THAT DEBATE ON MORE
IMPORTANT MATTERS WOULD BE UNDER PRESSURE OF ADJOURNMENT
AND THAT, TACTICALLY, IT WAS BETTER TO HAVE PRESSURE OF
DEADLINE FORECLOSE WHAT PROTENDED TO BE LENGTHY
DISCUSSION OF LESS IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF
MANDATE. WE ALSO ARGUED THAT USE OF BRACKETS, AS IN SOME
OTHER ACTIVITIES HERE, WOULD BE MOST EXPEDITIOUS MEANS TO
IDENTIFY AREAS OF DISAGREEMENT AND FACILITATE DISCUSSION.
WE AGREED, HOWEVER, NOT TO TAKE CONTRARY POSITION IN
WORKING GROUP DISCUSSION. WHITE

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